



Secretary of State

Dear Fellow Voter,

By registering to vote, you have taken the first step in playing an active role in deciding California's future. Now, to help you make your decisions, my office has created this Official Voter Information Guide that contains titles and summaries prepared by Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr., impartial analyses of the law and potential costs to taxpayers prepared by Legislative Analyst Elizabeth G. Hill, arguments in favor of and against all ballot measures prepared by proponents and opponents, text of the proposed laws proofed by Legislative Counsel Diane F. Boyer-Vine, and other useful information. The printing of the guide was done under the supervision of State Printer Geoff Brandt.

On February 5, 2008, we will have the opportunity to help choose the next President of the United States, as well as decide on measures regarding education, transportation, and more. Presidential primary elections happen just once every four years, but this one is particularly exciting because it is America's first presidential election since 1952 in which no incumbent president or vice president is running. Your vote can make a real difference in the future of our nation.

Voting is easy, and any registered voter can vote by mail or at a polling place. The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot is January 29.

There are more ways to participate in the electoral process. You can be a poll worker on Election Day, helping to make voting easier for all eligible voters and protecting ballots until they are counted by elections officials. You can spread the word about voter registration deadlines and voting rights through emails, phone calls, brochures, and posters. You can help educate other voters about the candidates and issues by organizing discussion groups or participating in debates with friends, family, and community leaders.

For more information about how and where to vote, as well as other ways you can participate in the electoral process, call 1-800-345-VOTE or visit www.sos.ca.gov.

It is a wonderful privilege in a democracy to have a choice and the right to voice your opinion. Whether you cast your ballot at a polling place or on a mail-in ballot, I encourage you to take the time to carefully read about each measure in this information guide.

Thank you for taking your civic responsibility seriously and making your voice heard!